

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
COMMON COUNCIL  
December 08, 2014**

The Common Council of the City of Rensselaer met on December 8, 2014 in regular session in Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor Stephen Wood called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by invocation offered by Councilman Overton and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Answering roll call were: Mayor Stephen Wood; Clerk-Treasurer Frieda Bretzinger; Council Members Russ Overton, George Cover, Ernest Watson, Jr.; City Attorney Mike Riley; Park Supt. Joe Effinger; Building Commissioner and Fire Chief Kenny Haun; Police Sergeant Matt McAleer; Utility Office Manager Heather Smart; Gas Supt. Carol Lockridge; Electric Lead Line Foreman Lenny Larson; Electric Plant Supt. Claude Grow; Street Supt. Mike Murphy; Project Coordinator Jerry Lockridge and Robert Blankenship with the Rensselaer Republican. Council Members Scott Barton and Bill Hollerman, Cemetery Supt. Ron DeMoss, Police Chief Jeff Phillips and Electric Utility Coordinator Donna Cochran were absent.

Also in attendance were: Stace Pickering with Consolidated Insurance; Robert Schenk; Marcia Mathew, Linda DeMoss and Genny Daniels.

The November 24, 2014 regular council minutes were presented and approved by majority with a motion by Overton, second by Watson. Council Members Barton and Hollerman were absent

**Citizen Comments and Presentation of Petitions:** There were none.

**Resolution 33-2014, Transfer of Funds:** Bretzinger said this resolution transfer consists of \$28,422.28 within General Fund. There was a motion by Cover, second by Watson, to approve Resolution 33-2014. The motion passed by majority, with Barton and Hollerman absent.

**Resolution 34-2014, Gas Tracker:** Carol Lockridge reported that this tracker reflected a 2¢ per 100 cubic feet increase. There was a motion by Overton, second by Cover, to approve Resolution 34-2014 as presented. The motion passed by majority, with Barton and Hollerman absent.

**FMLA Request:** There is a request for FMLA for an employee of the city. There was a motion by Cover, second by Watson, to approve the request. The motion passed by majority, with Barton and Hollerman absent

**Christmas Eve Holiday Discussion:** Lockridge asked council's consideration to exchange the Christmas Eve holiday on Wednesday with Friday, December 26th to make a four day weekend. He talked to the department heads and most were in favor of the exchange instead of working two days, having off two days and coming back for one. It would make things easier in his department as far as routes. It wouldn't mess up curbside recycling done this way. Smart said her office is not in favor of this. They like the idea of a four day weekend but, with the exception of one person, everyone else already has holiday plans. Cover said when he talked to Jerry it made more sense to have the four day weekend. There was a motion by Cover, second by Watson, to change December 24<sup>th</sup> to December 26<sup>th</sup>. The motion passed by majority, with Barton and Hollerman absent.

**Committee Reports:** There were none.

**Administrative Comments:** Cover thanked the water department for fixing the water main break by his house. He was out for about 1 ½ hours. Watson and Bretzinger had nothing. Wood congratulated the Bombers. Overton said several parents mentioned signs up about state champs and Lockridge is working with Ken Hickman and Phillips on a design.

**Claims Approval:** The claims were presented for payment. There was a motion by Overton, second by Watson, to approve the claims. The motion passed by majority, with Barton and Hollerman absent.

**Supt Reports:**

**Building Dept:** Haun told council that the Board of Zoning Appeals will meet tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

**Electric Utility:** Larson reported they are busy trimming trees and they've run electric to L & P Body Shop. Grow had nothing.

**Fire Dept:** Haun said the Board of Public Works approved payment for a Synthesis invoice for the new fire station.

**Gas Dept:** Lockridge said she will be off December 10<sup>th</sup> to December 17<sup>th</sup> for daughter's wedding.

**Legal Dept.:** Riley said he enjoyed the Bomber victory.

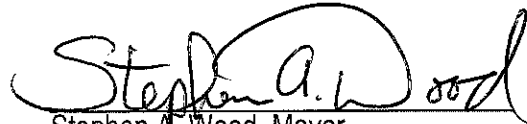
**Park Dept:** Effinger had nothing.

**Police Dept.:** McAleer reported that the new squad car was received Thursday.

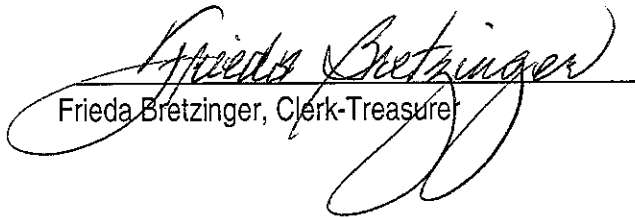
**Street, Sanitation, Water and Wastewater:** Murphy said they are busy with routes and leaf pick up. Lockridge said they will be going out for bids for St. Gaspar Drive on January 12 and hope to break ground in April. They will be meeting with INDOT this week regarding the Washington Street bridge.

**Utility Office:** Smart said they are looking at ADA compliance in the utility office. They are changing the work space and the cost will be picked up by the utilities.

There being nothing more to come before council, there was a motion by Cover, second by Watson, to adjourn. The motion passed by majority, with Barton and Hollerman absent, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

  
Stephen A. Wood, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Frieda Bretzinger, Clerk-Treasurer